

HOUSE No. 1497

By Mr. Koutoujian of Waltham, petition of Peter J. Koutoujian and others relative to requiring nursing homes to provide information and request directives regarding end of life issues from new residents. Elder Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Peter J. Koutoujian Joyce A. Spiliotis
Rachel Kaprielian

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO NURSING HOMES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 inserting after section 72C the following section:—
3 Section 72C1/2. Nursing homes licensed and operated in the
4 commonwealth be required to discuss, and document said discus-
5 sion, regarding advance directives for end of life issues within 2
6 weeks of admitting new residents. This discussion should cover
7 treatment instructions and proxy instructions for the level of care
8 a patient would want in a life-threatening situation and the option
9 to designate an individual as a durable power of attorney. Any
10 advance directive forms indicated by this discussion should also
11 be completed within this time frame.